

TULSA

DISTRICT RECORD

March/April 2005
Vol. 29, No. 2

Navigation system sediment surveys completed

See page 7

Final Edition



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Tulsa District



Col. Miroslav Kurka
District Commander

Commander's Corner

This is the last commander's column that will appear in the *Tulsa District Record*; from now on I will be writing to you in the new Southwestern Division regional publication – the *Pacesetter*.

The final issue of the *Tulsa District Record* is a significant milestone in the history of our district. It represents the actualization of regionalization in the public affairs arena and is a significant change.

However, change is nothing new to the Army Corps of Engineers in our part of the country. Before there was a Tulsa District, the Corps of Engineers managed the water resources of our area through the Little Rock and Denison Districts. The Tulsa District was established in 1939 and has gone through numerous changes since. These changes adjusted the district's civil works boundary many times and added and subtracted many military programs.

Through all these changes, the Corps has proven its great value to the nation and to the people of the Arkansas and Red River basins through the outstanding expertise, dedication, and excellence of its people.

I am very confident that regionalization – represented here by the last issue of the *Tulsa District Record* – will be no different. You will continue to prove the great value of the service we provide through your skill and efforts.

ESSAYONS!

Tulsa District Record

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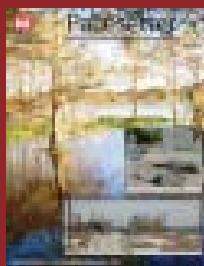
Did you get the *TDR* by mail?

Important information for readers who received their *Tulsa District Record* by mail:

This final edition of the *Tulsa District Record* marks the last of individual district newsletters in Southwestern Division. Public Affairs Offices are

cooperating on a regional, electronic publication, the *Pacesetter*. It will be published about every six weeks.

You can view the *Pacesetter* on line by clicking the link at Tulsa District's website, <http://www.swt.usace.army.mil>.



From the Cover

In the cover photo, Steve Brewer collects sediments from the river with a petite ponar grab sampler.



Workers from Tulsa and Little Rock Districts worked hard to make the project a success. They included David Key, Steve Graham, Robert Booker, Steve Brewer, Karl Konecny, Brad Hull, Steve Nolen, Carl Sloan, Dan Gibson, Troy James, and Kelly Youngblood from Tulsa District; and Garrsion "Rug" Martin, Terry Wood, Tim Brown, Mike Hendricks, and Mike Hutchison of Little Rock District.

See article on next page.

Sediment surveys conducted on navigation system

By Christopher Kennedy

Engineering and Construction Division

In September 2004 and February 2005, workers from Tulsa and Little Rock districts collected sediment samples from navigation pools on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

The project collected sediment quality data in the navigation system in both Oklahoma and Arkansas for two purposes: to support future Operation and Maintenance dredging needs for existing operations on the navigation system and to support impact assessment for the proposed 12-foot channel deepening project.

Sampling activities were conducted with the use of a small spud barge or work flat about 30 feet long, 15 feet wide, and five feet from top of the deck to the base of the keel. Once the flat is in position, two spuds on its opposite ends provide stabilization. Each spud is a steel column about 25 feet tall and eight inches in diameter. To minimize any horizontal movement of the flat, the spuds are released and gravity driven into the sediment. When all on-board investigative activities are completed at a location, the spuds and anchors are mechanically lifted, and a small survey boat repositions the flat at the next location.

Steve Nolen coordinated efforts. He is chief, Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch, Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division. Nolen identified areas for sampling and parameters to be tested but says the real work was done by Steve Brewer, others from the HTRW Design Center, and Operations Division field employees from both Oklahoma and Arkansas who piloted the boat and barge for sampling.

He said, "All involved with the field sampling effort did an exceptional job under extremely challenging conditions. There were constant delays owing to funding issues and high water conditions, but everyone exhibited extreme patience, professionalism, and adaptability in getting the job done. I can't say enough good things about how the crews worked under these challenging conditions to accomplish the required work in a very efficient manner. This was an extremely important task for a highly visible project."



Steve Brewer, Robert Booker, and Karl Konecny collect subsurface sediments with the direct push machine. It was temporarily rigged to the deck of a work flat and pushed on the river by a Corps survey boat, the Tahlequah.

About the Navigation System

At the time, the development of the Arkansas River for navigation, additional flood control, hydroelectric power generation, and other purposes was the largest civil works project ever undertaken by the Corps of Engineers. It was authorized by congress in the River and Harbor Act of July 24, 1946, and construction began in 1957.

The 445-mile McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System reached Little Rock in December 1968, Fort Smith in December 1969, and the Port of Catoosa, the head of the system, in December 1970. Montgomery Point Lock and Dam No. 0, the final lock and dam constructed on Arkansas River, was completed in summer of 2004.

The navigation system is composed of four river segments. One follows the Verdigris River for 50 miles to Muskogee, Okla. One follows the path of the Arkansas River which threads its way through Oklahoma and Arkansas for 377 miles. Another follows a nine-mile channel constructed by the Corps to connect the Arkansas and White Rivers. One river segment follows the path of the White River for 10 miles until it flows into the Mississippi River.

Five ports are located along the navigation system. They are located near the cities of Catoosa and Muskogee, Okla., and Fort Smith, Little Rock, and Pine Bluff, Ark. The Catoosa, Muskogee, and Little Rock ports accept foreign trade. Commodities shipped on the system include chemical fertilizers, farm products, sand/gravel/rock, iron/steel, wheat, soybeans, and petroleum products.

Total moved during 2004 was 12.9 million tons.



Al Ameen sewage system removes health hazard, improves sanitation

By Alicia Embrey

Gulf Region Division, Central District

Al Ameen District, east of Baghdad, is a modest residential community with small mom and pop businesses. Among the brick and rubble, scattered remnants of the homes that stood there are still visible. As the reconstruction effort drives forward, free Iraqis in this area reach out for basic necessities. Clean water to drink; 24-hour electricity to heat, cool, cook with, and light their homes; and – just as important – a sewage system to prevent the stench and health hazards threatening their families.

Today the \$2.7 million sewage and wastewater project at Al Ameen stands as an example to the rest of Iraq. The new system replaces open slit trenches and malfunctioning lagoons, alleviates general pooling in neighborhoods, and provides an operable system to transport sanitary wastes.

Focus for Iraqi contractors, the 20th Engineer Battalion, and the Corps of Engineers now turns to the unpaved streets. Even under the former regime, it was not uncommon to see standing water in the streets, even on the hottest, driest days. “They have never had a proper sewage system or paved streets,” Travis Lynch, a Corps project engineer, explained. Children played in roads soaked with raw sewage sludge.

Those unhealthy roads and the storm water trenches that twisted through communities like Kamaliya are now a fading memory for the residents of Al Ameen.

“During my first visit to the area, I was surprised at the dilapidated conditions that the people of Al Ameen live in,” Lynch said. “There is now marked improvement in the area. The roadways are clearly defined with the installation of curbs, and the sewer lines have eliminated the pool-



This picture, taken by an Iraqi contractor, shows new curb joints being grouted in Al Ameen.

ing sewer water on the street. Curb-lined streets nearly ready for asphalt have replaced sewage flooded dirt roads.”

With the system now in place, it’s important to pave the roads and protect the sewage lines. “The existing dirt roads were in bad shape and in need of repair,” said Mike Mitchell, project engineer. The Iraqi contractor has cleaned the trash and sewage from roads and replaced damaged pavement and curb material with suitable sub-grade and base-coarse. The contractor will soon begin placing new pavement.

The pavement not only acts as a good driving surface, it provides protection to the lines from adverse affects of weather, vehicle traffic, and erosion. “The curb acts as a limit to the roadway width keeping traffic within its boundaries,” Mitchell said. “It also acts as a storm water collection system funneling rainwater into collection points which then feed into the sewer system and out of the streets.”

Thanks to the new sewage system and cleanup effort performed by Al Ameen citizens, pending health issues are also fading. “Diseases stemming from sewage collecting in inhabited areas are responsible for a large percentage of death and birth defects in the population. Mosquitoes also breed in these ponds and act as carriers of disease. Without the sewage system project, the spread of disease could have reached epidemic proportions,” Mitchell said.

“The 20th Engineer Battalion worked extensively with the Corps, the Iraqi government and local residents in making this project a successful reality,” Mitchell added.

Looking back – Life at the hotel compound

Editor's Note: Continuing this issue's theme of looking back, David Steele, chief of Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division, provided answers to questions of what life was like one year ago at the Sheraton-Palestine Hotel compound in Baghdad, Iraq.

What was the biggest challenge about living at the complex?

Getting used to the daily explosions, some of which hit the hotel. Machine gun fire every night was also hard to get used to. Some of the explosions were so loud that you were certain that it hit the room next to you, but later found out that it was two blocks away. Many nights, I moved my mattress into the alcove in my room and slept with my armored vest and Kevlar helmet on.

What was a highlight of living there?

There were many highlights. One of the most memorable was the time in April '04 that a demonstration was planned on the circle outside the compound. There were many demonstrations there, but this particular time the Mahdi Army showed up in formation marching around the circle in their black robes and yellow scarves brandishing swords and shouting "Death to Americans!" The Mahdi Army consisted of followers of the radical Shiite cleric, Moqtada Al Sadr. I was very proud of the soldiers of the 1st Armored Division who stood firm in their M-1 tanks protecting the compound.

One of the most memorable experiences with the Iraqi people was the time I got a haircut at the barbershop in the basement of the Palestine. The barber was a distinguished looking gentleman and had a young assistant to hand him the tools. He was very animated as he proceeded to cut. We even took an intermission to drink chai tea. I admit I was a little nervous, especially when he came at me with a straight razor. Imagine that – to be in a war zone and have an Iraqi come at you with a sharp razor!



The circle where demonstrating marchers brandished swords and shouted, "Death to Americans!"



An April 2004 demonstration by the Mahdi Army.

Tell us a little about your relationships with the other people.

I met a lot of really great people there, including Corps employees and Kellogg, Brown and Root employees. All were very helpful to ensure that everyone's needs were met. There was a sense that we were all in the same boat and were like one big family. I didn't relate much with the Iraqi people in the compound.

What was your job?

I was the chief of Engineering and Construction for the Corps of Engineers Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil. In that position, I worked with the KBR management in administering task orders to ensure that the contracts were being properly executed.

Did you get out and about? If so, what was it like?

I usually traveled by convoy once or twice a week to the Green Zone for meetings. The convoy experience was exciting to say the least. Fortunately, we had no serious incidents, but flying at breakneck speeds through crowded streets and alleys full of sewage was a new experience each time.

What was a typical day at the hotel complex?

As we used to say, "Every day is Groundhog Day" in Iraq. I lived on the 13th floor of the Sheraton. My typical day started at 5:00 a.m., unless an explosion woke me up earlier. We soon learned that prime time in the U.S. was about 4:00 a.m. in Iraq, so they like to blow something up about that time for maximum impact back in the states.

After a quick breakfast on the 18th floor of the Sheraton, I walked across the street to the Palestine. You had to walk around M-1 tanks to get there. Sometimes, fumes from the power plants

Continued on page 6

Compound Life

Continued from page 5

were so thick that your eyes would water. They often burned crude oil to generate electricity at the Daura Powerplant.

My office was on the sixth floor of the Palestine. The view outside my office was across the Tigris River to the Green Zone. Most of our work was at the computer, because e-mail was the most reliable method of communication. I supervised the area offices for RIO at Kirkuk and Basrah. My office was also across from the KBR management. We talked daily about various items relating to the contract task orders. At 4:00 p.m., I conducted a staff meeting with the Corps employees, usually five or six people. We typically worked until 7:00 or 8:00 each night.

The Administrative Contracting Officer often went back after dinner and worked even later. I usually didn't have to do that unless there was a specific problem that I needed to get involved in. Back in my hotel room, there wasn't much to do. At first, the TV only had Arabic stations and the BBC, so I didn't watch much. Later, the hotel got a satellite connection and got a few more English stations including the FOX News channel. Otherwise, I kept a journal and did some reading each night.

What were the conditions like for you at the hotel?

Considering that we were in a war zone in the middle of Baghdad, the conditions were very good, probably the best to be offered anywhere in Iraq. The room was spacious and comfort-

able. The food was provided by contract and was excellent. About once a week, they would have a steak and lobster night which was fantastic!

I was absolutely amazed the first time I took my laundry to the ladies on the 18th floor in the morning. By noon, it was not only clean, but pressed and in my room! That never happened when I lived in the Green Zone.



Marjorie Ellenberg, another Tulsa District deployee, outside the Palestine Hotel.

The name changed, but the mission remained the same

By Mary Beth Hudson, Public Affairs Office

In the Public Affairs archives, large notebooks hold yellowing copies of Tulsa District's command information publications.

Apparently, the workforce was being informed by an official command information vehicle for at least a few years before PAO began keeping copies. The first file copy is from November 1963 when the publication appears to be in its fourth year of production.

Earliest copies are of a one-page, double-sided *Information Bulletin* which contained very short snippets. A visit from the president of the United States would be covered in the same space and style as a talk by a speaker to a civic organization.

In January, 1970, the name was changed to *Tulsa District Information Bulletin*, and in April 1978, the *Tulsa District Record* began production.

Names from the masthead and random headlines give a very quick overview of the district's and the newsletter's history:

November 1963 Lt. Col. Warren A. Guinan named Deputy District Engineer

March 1964 Tulsa District contributes to New York World's Fair

June 1965 Bigger lakes for Canton and Fort Supply

September 1966 Navigation channel work started

December 1967 Concrete work on Pine Creek Dam started

February 1968 Tulsa District offices to begin move 5 April

May 1969 Edith Shelton receives Army award

August 1970 New appointments announced (Ira E. Williams, chief, Operations Division; John D. Truett, chief, Real Estate Division; Walden J. Evans, assistant chief, Construction Division; Billie J. Bishop, assistant chief, Operations Division; Lee B. Reeh, chief, Mechanical-Electrical Section, Design Branch, Engineering Division; Jimmie D. McFeeters, western resident engineer; and Robert D. Finch, project engineer, Broken Bow Dam and Reservoir)

November 1971 Kiamichi River diverted through spillway at Hugo Dam

January 1972 Tulsa District Library receives copies of histories

April 1973 User Fees Press Conference held

July 1974 Engineer Day honors employees, salutes Myron DeGeer

October 1975 Dierks and Gillham Dams dedicated

January 1976 The District has 11 lakes and one local protection project under construction; and five lakes and the chloride

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Technological History of the Tulsa District Record

by Edward Engelke
Public Affairs Office

We all can appreciate the record of historical achievements witnessed in the district's newsletter, but for those interested in technology, we see cogs, cams, and gears give way to electrons, transistors, and some high priced software packages.

Yes, the newsletter has traveled a very long way when we look at process improvements brought on by technology. Let's take a moment to reflect.

It Began With a Typewriter

Beginning with a simple typewritten and mimeographed page, the commander of the Tulsa District began communicating with the workforce. It was little more than what we would view as staff notes today but it did the job. The total cost for production would be one workspace, one typewriter, one editor, and one procurement form for mimeographing a copy for each employee. Issues with multiple pages would be stapled in the corner for distribution.

Move Over Typewriter – Photo-Mechanical Composition is Available

I can imagine that every editor dreamed of the day when documents could be prepared using something other

than Courier type face and in a font size different than 10. Remember, the typewriter had one standard font (the one built onto the keys). IBM eventually produced a typewriter that allowed the user to choose from a few type styles – Courier, Roman, and Helvetica – when it invented the removable-type head. But the day of ultimate font flexibility came with the invention of the photo-mechanical typesetting machine.

This technology allowed text to be produced in fonts of different styles and sizes. With the typesetter, text in the district's newsletter became professional quality that matched magazine and newsprint column formats. The typesetter provided sheets of text composed in a single column, not as a page.

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Ruth Norris using a typewriter. Technology has changed everything but the clutter on the desks.

Headlines

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control project are in the planning stage. The operation of the navigation system and 25 completed lakes continues. And environmental protection continues to assume great importance. With this work program, we have the challenge for our suggested goal: To perform our services as though our customers had a choice . . .

February 1977 Fred visits TDO (a Fort Supply prairie dog)

March 1978 Appointments: Robert E. Ramsey, assistant chief, Foundations and Materials Branch, Soils Mechanics Section; John P. Clark, assistant chief, Construction Division, and chief, Office Engineering Branch, Construction Division; Jimmie D. McFeeters, area engineer, Western Area Office to be established in Woodward; John H. Wilson, resident engineer for construction of Joe Creek Channel Improvement Project in Tulsa; Howell R. Green, resident engineer, Optima Resident Office; Cliff N. Hays, project manager, Keystone Lake

April 1979 Tulsans Celebrate 'John Morris Day'

August 1980 Tulsa, Little Rock district boundaries to be realigned

April 1981 Who will be 'Woman of the Year'? (Nominees were Norma Jean Bennett, Marion Lee Pearre, Caroline R. Parks, and Bobbye L. Harmon)

April 1982 Welcome mat out for 27 transferees

April 1983 Retiree briefing, Dress Western Day set for May 6

April 1984 Commercial activities are being considered

August 1985 Tulsa District Named Model District

July/August 1986 Information Management Office: New approach to old problem

July/August 1987 Engineering and Construction Division: A new approach begins

November/December 1988 Keystone opens doors to public power celebration

June 1989 District Celebrates 50th Anniversary

May 1990 Environmental watchdogs for the Division

June/July 1991 District's New Home Site is Chosen

February/March 1992 A classic hit, Pantex Plant and the Tulsa District

June/July 1993 Zebra mussels discovered in district

August 1994 Vandal convicted of digging archeological site at Wister Lake

June 1995 Tulsa District leads Corps assistance during Oklahoma City recovery effort

June 1996 Celebrating 26 Years of Success on the Navigation System

May 1997 Corps Names Regulator of the Year (Andy Commer)

January/February 1998 Tar Creek is Test for Contract Type

Fall 1999 Fall River Lake Turns 50

July/August 2000 Maintaining the Gates

May/June 2001 Army Chief of Staff Personally Honors Canton Worker at Fort Sill Gathering

September/October 2001 Terrorists Attack, Corps joins in nation's response

May/June 2002 Corps responds to bridge tragedy

October/December 2003 Air Force selects Tulsa District Design Agent of the Year

January-March 2004 District helps meet nation's military challenges

January/February 2005 Winter storms damage Kansas parks

Volume 29, No. 2, March/April 2005, is the final issue of the *Tulsa District Record*. Its mission, to keep the command informed, will be assumed by the regional publication, e-mail, and the team page.

In the world of journalism, the number 30 often marks the end of an article or a news release. Although the publication called *Tulsa District Record* was just a bit shy of hitting its 30th anniversary, it has earned its

-30-

Who made the masthead?

District Engineer

Col. Robert G. Bening
Col. James J. Harmon
Col. Franklin T. Tilton
Col. Frank M. Patete
Col. F. Lee Smith Jr.
Col. Otis Williams
Col. Timothy Sanford
Col. Leonardo V. Flor
Col. Robert L. Suthard Jr.
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Thanks to the many, many, many other contributors!

Techno History

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But with every step forward ... (you know the rest). In this case, we gained quality type in sizes and fonts not available on the typewriter. But we lost efficiency because every story sent out had to be retyped into the typesetting machine. Every story had to be read and reread several times to find all the typographical mistakes created by that step. Each mistake meant another trip to the typesetter. The editor had to develop patience for processes which were no longer in personal control.

In addition, new skills had to be developed in cut and paste techniques. I'm talking the real cut and paste with scissors or knife and glue or rubber cement. Skills needed to get things cut in the right place, to fit the right spot, to continue to the next page correctly. The typewritten mimeograph page editor didn't have those problems.

Electrons Take Over (Typewriter-Computer Marriage)

The price for technology reached an affordable point and the district brought the capability to the editor's desk. Electronic systems replaced the photo-mechanical ones. The computer linked with the typewriter to produce a machine that could do all a typewriter did, with the quality and flexibility of the typesetter. The Wang word processing system, operated by a pool of expert word processors (those were people then), converted hand-written documents into final machine-prepared copy ready for final production.

Marriage Annulled (Computers Demand Independence)

But as powerful as the Wang system was, the computer demanded independence, and companies like Xerox pioneered the desktop publishing system. (That's when I came to work in the Public Affairs Office.)

Desktop publishing systems allowed the flexibility of word processing to merge with graphic manipulation in a newspaper-style, multiple-column layout. That product could be output to a printer as an entire page composed exactly as desired. With this, the genie was out of the bottle.

Technology allowed Tulsa's newsletter to be produced at ever higher levels of quality and ease of production. The newsletter editor could do all the tasks needed to write, layout, and print a newsletter from their computer.

The independence brought by the computer revolutionized the communication function of the district's newsletter and, as it has turned out, that revolution has affected every member of the district.

Today, because communication technology has changed from

typewriter to computers, from paper to electronic mail, the commander has a powerful communication medium which allows nearly instant communication around the world. An electronic newsletter is in the process of replacing the paper version. Soon we will see the Southwestern Division *Pacesetter* come with news from across the division – electronically. This product will contain news from Tulsa and our region.

The newsletter stands not only as a witness to the change technology has made to our business processes, but as a motivating force brought about by the humble newsletter's need to communicate.



Barbara Cravens at a computer while Angelia Asberry looks on.

Math Behind the *Tulsa District Record*

If an 8 ½ x 11 inch page is printed at a type size averaging 11 points, and if 80 percent of the page is used for type space appropriate for a newspaper, I calculate that there would be 3,380 characters on a page. Take that and apply it across the history of the *Tulsa District Record* (20 pages per issue, 11 issues on average a year for 20 years) and we can hear the sound of the typewriter hitting the paper 15 million times. That's an abuse to the human machine who had to strike the keys repeatedly – 15 million times! Oh. I almost forgot. That's for the words that made it to the final edition. It does not count the strokes for corrections, articles not published, and the like. No wonder editors of the newsletter have short, stubby fingers.



Angie Short

Karen Kennedy

Karen Kennedy can do customer care

A realty specialist with a “can do” attitude earned Customer Care Employee of the Quarter honors for the first quarter, FY 05.

Karen Kennedy was nominated by co-workers for compiling a detailed real estate procedure checklist for use by all field offices and the district office. She coordinated with everyone involved to outline each step to take to create various real estate instruments. With the many revisions and additions, the checklist took more than a year to create.

According to the nomination, in addition to her normal workload, Kennedy worked countless duty hours and overtime, including holidays and weekends, providing an efficient way to streamline Real Estate Division’s work.

It stated, “Karen was given this difficult task to complete and has been put under significant pressure to provide this information to the chiefs of Real Estate and Operations, along with project managers. Karen played the most critical part in producing a guide to processing all actions that come through Tulsa District for the new field realty specialists and Operations field personnel. After the re-organization in Real Estate, Karen had to extensively revise the checklist to reflect all the changes. The guide contains a minimum of 38 checklists, as well as supporting documentation and attachments, which are combined in two large volumes.

“She has maintained a positive attitude no matter how many changes or deadlines she had to meet. Karen never complained or buckled under the pressure. She is not only an attentive employee, she also cares deeply for her co-workers. She is truly wonderful asset to the Real Estate team and the Tulsa District as a whole.”

Communication Commentary

By Edward Engelke, Public Affairs Office

The Army has always known that soldiers performed best when they knew what their unit was doing and how they fit into its success. War fighting in the trenches with no electronic communications meant paper had to be carried from unit to unit to give updates, directions, awards, and news from back home.

Today, the picture is entirely – totally – changed. (Read that slowly for the fullest effect.)

For better or worse, we would all agree that news today is instantly available. Whether through e-mail, news groups, message services, blogs, television, radio, cell phones, or text message services to wireless units, information is reaching Army soldiers and civilians every minute of every day.

It is fascinating to look back at historical copies of the *Tulsa District Record* and realize what has been accomplished by the Tulsa District. We have grown through the entire range of programs and projects of the Corps of Engineers. We started with one civil works project at Denison, Texas, and grew into a district which more than any other agency deserves credit for the creation of green flourishing where dust once dominated. We never promoted ourselves. We were professional, and the *TDR* brought news of program and mission accomplishment to employees.

As the Corps changed, the newsletter changed. Today, the change is significant. The loss of the district newsletter in preference to a regional newsletter reflects the new regional-team approach to business taking place in the Southwestern Division. Our geographic dividing lines are being blurred, and we’re forming cooperative teams to share not only the work but also the success of projects well executed. It’s natural that the newsletter would change as well.

A huge thank you goes to each employee who has served as an editor (one of the most invisible jobs in the world) on the *Tulsa District Record*. A thank you also must be extended to the readers, because communicating with you was the purpose of all the effort.

So thank you. Thank you for reading, contributing, sharing, digesting, and incorporating the news in your lives.

I am excited to be on the foundation of a new communications tool, the *Pacesetter*. It is going to be an exciting future for the regional Corps team, and with your help we can continue to share our successes. Only now it will be with the region.

Is it an emergency? If so, dial 4911

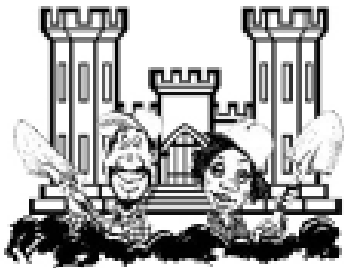
The district office has a new medical emergency phone number, 4911. (If your prefix is not 669, dial 669-4911.)

What has changed?

4911 calls the Guards' Desk directly. When they receive a 4911 call, the guards know it's a medical emergency. Based on the information received, they will either call the volunteer first-aid responders in the building or 9-11 for an ambulance.

What remains the same?

All building employees can still call 9-911 in an emergency situation whenever an employee is unconscious or non-responsive. It is also important to call 4911 to alert the guards, so they can coordinate the response between the person with the emergency and the responders.

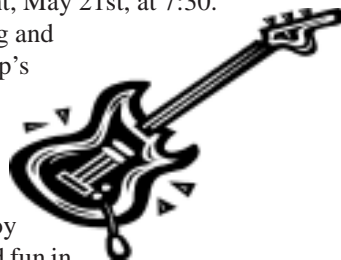


Family News

Bringin' the Blues to Mayfest

The band, Karen Vance and 32/20, will perform at Tulsa's Mayfest on Saturday night, May 21st, at 7:30. Karen Lichtenberg of Engineering and Construction Division is the group's singer and the Karen Vance of its name.

Corps Family members are encouraged to come out to support one of their own and enjoy an evening of music, art, food, and fun in downtown Tulsa.



New Additions



Abigail Lauren Brock was born Jan. 26 to Mike and Rebecca Brock. Rebecca is the daughter of Randy Bratcher, contract specialist, Contracting Division, Tulsa District. Abigail is the first grandchild for Randy and Diane Bratcher.

On Feb. 23, Phyllis Jordan, retiree, welcomed her first great grandson, Breyuan P. Jennings Jr.

Maggie Fletcher, Equal Employment Opportunity Office, became a very proud great grandmother on Feb. 11. Jerrod Davidson and Clarissa Ann Purdom-Davidson of Bowling Green, Ky., welcomed their son, Roy Wayne Purdom-Davidson. Clarissa is Maggie's granddaughter.

Todd and Jessica Hughes from the Fort Sill Resident Office are the proud parents of Elijah Austin Hughes, born March 30.

Condolences

Jessie Lawson, retiree, died Jan. 14. He was a construction representative on several lake projects including Kaw, Copan, Skiatook, and Birch.

B. J. Stangle passed away Feb. 11. He was father-in-law of Sherri Stangle, Tulsa Resident Office.

L.D. Goodner who worked at Eufaula Powerhouse from 1965 until retiring in 1993 as Powerplant Superintendent died in mid February.

Mural Morgan, retiree, passed away Feb. 14. He was a lock and dam operator at Chouteau Lock and Dam for many years.

Lloyd Howard Holland, 82, retired program analyst, died March 18. He was a B-17 pilot during WWII and flew seven missions in the European Theatre. Friends may contribute to the First Baptist "First For The Future" Campaign.

David Hudson's mother, Bonnie Kato, recently passed away. David is the lead construction representative at Sheppard Resident Office.

Dixie Yadon, mother of Jeanne Sturges, passed away April 4. She was mother-in-law of John Sturges, Office of Counsel. Memorials may be made to the Saint Francis Hospice in Tulsa or the First United Methodist Church in Pawnee, Okla.

Lucy Spaulding of Logistics Management Office lost her father April 12. He was 92 years old.

Dr. Ronald Passmore died April 15. He was father-in-law of John Meyers, a member of the hydropower team in Operations Division.

Marge Dunn, retiree from Real Estate Division, passed away April 18.

Congratulations!

In May, Linda J. Davis will graduate from New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science. She is a Crimson Scholar, president of the Pre-Vet Club, member of the Leadership Team of the Newman Catholic Students, and member of the Social Justice team which plans faith development activities for university students. She has a GPA of 3.8 and will attend Colorado State University Veterinary College in Fort Collins this fall. Linda is the daughter of Jeanne Carroll, environmental engineer in E&C Division, Tulsa District.

Commentary

Editor's Note, one last time

Mary Beth Hudson, Public Affairs Office

For more years that I want to admit, I have had a folder – either electronic or manila – named “Next TDR.” It’s been the collection place for the myriad pieces of information likely to make their way onto the pages of the *Tulsa District Record*.

From cute kids at Corps Days to writings from war zones, the *TDR* has been one of the commanders’ main communication tools. It has strived to do exactly what its name says, be a record of the district. It has tried to capture Tulsa District’s main events, programs, projects, happenings, and honors as well as major transitions in the lives of the Corps Family.

The many trips I make to the archives looking for something that someone remembers ran sometime in some *TDR* convince me it has done just that. Flipping through old issues to prepare this farewell edition has been a moving walk down memory lane as well as an education in the district’s earlier years.

As editor, I’ve often thought of the *TDR* sort of like one of my children, the really, really difficult one. The one everyone thinks they could do a better job raising. The one you went through all these labor pains for only to realize he’d have to be born again over and over and over for years and years and years. Sort of a virtual child who looked better on screen than in hard copy and who had lots of richer cousins with more money to spend on clothes.

Preparing a publication from blank screen to print-ready pages is a frustrating, fulfilling, and – in an office this size – often quite lonely job. Every single time the *TDR* has been put to bed, I have listened for background music and looked around for the bottle of champagne. I mean, for heaven’s sakes, people, it’s a birth! It deserves to be noticed! I’d head back to my desk, fanfare-and-bubbleless, only to find the next blank screen waiting for items from the “Next TDR” file to fill it.

Well, no longer. The end of the newsletter as we’ve known it has been coming for a long time, and I’m

probably sadder (and happier) about that fact than anyone else.

I’m also content. Looking back through the issues, it’s clear that the *TDR* has done a decent job. It’s kept us aware of the breadth and depth of the district and has connected all of us, wherever we are in such a sprawling district and whatever we do in this incredibly diverse organization. It has served the workforce well for many years and has captured the spirit and much of the story of the Tulsa District.

I hope this final edition continues to do a bit of that, along with its further purpose, which is to celebrate the existence and note the passing of the *Tulsa District Record*. When I became editor oh-so-many years ago, I never expected to be the final one. But I am, and it’s time to wrap it up. The *TDR*’s being replaced by the new kid on the block, and the block itself is much, much larger now.

The *Pacesetter* will have a regional focus and provide news and information from throughout the Southwestern Division. The process isn’t nearly as lonely now; I’m truly excited to have four co-parents – and a child with lots and lots of promise!

But it’s bitter-sweet to put this old baby to bed for the final time and hit delete on “Next TDR.”